Konkan Railway

3475. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Konkan Railway has been receiving stiff resistance on many accounts;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any way out has been found to break the stalemate; and"

(d) what steps are being taken for an early implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Steps taken include arrangement of resources and materials, detailed planning and constant monitoring of the Project work at all levels.

Construction of broad gauge railway line from Dehri to Bhavanatpur via Sone in Bihar

3476. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RITES has submitted a techno-economic feasibility report for construction of broad gauge railway from Dehri to Bhavanatpur via Sone in Bihar; and

(b) by when is the conversion of Metre Gauge line from Pahleza to Pipradih and its extension upto Bhavanatpur is likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) RITES have carried out the above survey on behalf of Bihar Government and has submitted a report to them.

(b) There is no proposal for taking up this work, at present.

Railway projects in New Bombay

3477. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Kalva-Turbhe Railway Line in Maharashtra taken up by CIDCO has been completed; and

(b) if so, by when it would be taken over by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Kalva Turbhe line is being constructed by CIDCO as a private siding, for dealing with their goods traffic.

(b) Railways.have agreed to take over this private siding on lease terms for movement of goods traffic after the terms and conditions of the Lease Agreement are accepted by the State Government.

Ageing Fleet of Steam Locomotive

3478. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated number of ageing fleet of steam locomotives Div. *(* Zone-wise in the country and whether Government have formulated plans to phase them out ensuring optimum returns to Government;

(b) the details of such locomotives sold as scrap of otherwise during the last 3 years—year-wise and Div. / Zone-wise and value realised per locomotive; and

(c) whether Government are reformulating a policy in this regard to optimise returns from sale and if so, the details thereof along with the estimate of locomotives likely to be sold during the current year ' and revision in the procedure if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) A